

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 6-9, 11 and 13 have been amended. Claims 14-16 are newly added. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The Office Action has objected to the drawing because the transmitter and receiver recited in claims 1, 6 and 13 are not shown in the drawings. Subject to the approval of the Examiner, a drawing sheet, which is appended hereto, amends figure 2 by adding an optical receiver 52 and an optical transmitter 53 as marked in red thereon. The specification has been amended at page 4 to refer to optical receiver 52 and optical transmitter 53. Therefore, it is submitted that the above mentioned objection to the drawing is obviated.

The Office Action further objected to the drawings because reference numeral 118 shown in figure 3 is not mentioned in the specification. This objection is traversed because reference numeral 118 is mentioned in a sentence at page 5, line 18. For the purpose of clarity, this sentence has been amended to clarify that reference numeral 118 is shown in figure 3 and not in figure 4. Therefore, it is submitted that the objection to the drawing is untenable and should be withdrawn.

The Office Action objects to claims 6, 8 and 13 as lacking proper antecedents. Claims 6 and 13 have been amended by changing "said module" to a ---module---. Claim 8 has been amended by changing "system electrical connectors" to ---chassis electrical connector means---, which is also recited in parent claim 6. Therefore, it is submitted that the objection is obviated by the amendment and should be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 6 and 13 have been amended by changing "rail" to ---groove---. Corresponding amendments have been made to the specification. Also, the specification has been amended at page 8 to clarify that the groove means are inserted into the

motherboard 35 via a rail means 270 of the motherboard. These changes are necessary to correct a misnomer. Figures 2, 3 and 6-9 clearly show that element 6 is a groove and that element 270 is a rail and not vice versa. Accordingly, it is submitted that these changes do not constitute new matter.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,767,999 to Kayner, hereafter Kayner in view of U.S Patent No. 5,734,558 to Poplawski et al., hereafter Poplawski.

The Office Action states that Kayner's module 10 is removably inserted into board 124. This statement is not true. To the contrary, Kayner's module 10 is insertable into a universal module guide 12 that is mounted on PC board 124. Kayner's universal guide is quite similar to the prior art arrangement shown in figure 1 of the present application and has the same disadvantages listed at page 1.

In contrast, independent claims 1, 6 and 13 each recite that the module includes a housing that comprises a pair of grooves that are insertable into a suitably configured board. By being insertable into the board, the claimed invention eliminates the need for Kayner's universal module guide and, therefore, also eliminates the cost thereof.

This deficiency of Kayner is not provided by Poplawski, which, like Kayner, shows a transceiver housing 312 that is pluggable into a receptacle 310 that in turn is connectable to a PC board. See column 9, lines 38-40. Accordingly, neither Kayner nor Poplawski shows a transceiver module that is insertable into a suitably configured board. Thus, the combination of Kayner and Poplawski does not teach the invention claimed by independent claims 1, 6 and 13.

Moreover, claims 1, 6 and 13 recite that the housing comprises a pair of grooves on opposite sides of the housing with a plurality of spring-like fingers mounted in the grooves. Kayner's retention clips 40 do not constitute a groove and are not disposed in a groove. Similarly, Poplawski's release levers 350 and 351 do not constitute a groove and

are not disposed in a groove. Accordingly, Kayner and Poplawski each lack a pair of grooves disposed on opposite sides of the housing with spring-like fingers mounted in the grooves.

For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that the rejection of claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is erroneous and should be withdrawn.

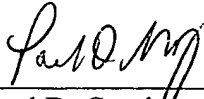
The Office Action cites a number of patents that were not applied in the rejections of the claims. These patents have been reviewed, but are believed to be inapplicable to the claims.

Newly presented claims 14-16 recite that the suitably configured board includes a structure that mates with the grooves and that the spring-like fingers exert a force against the structure that is perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the grooves. None of the cited references teaches this arrangement. Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 14-16 distinguish from the cited art and are, therefore, allowable.

It is respectfully requested for the reasons set forth above that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn, that the objection to the claims be withdrawn, that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be withdrawn, that claims 1-16 be allowed and that this application be passed to issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 2-12-04



Paul D. Greeley
Reg. No. 31,019
Attorney for Applicants
Ohlandt, Greeley, Ruggiero & Perle, L.L.P.
One Landmark Square, 10th Floor
Stamford, CT 06901-2682
(203) 327-4500